



# Ragtime

Music by Stephen Flaherty Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens Book by Terrence McNally

Aug. 3-6, 2023 Corson Auditorium

#### WELCOME



Welcome to Interlochen Center for the Arts. I am thrilled that you have joined us for today's performance.

During your visit, I encourage you to explore our campus and immerse yourself in our one-of-a-kind creative community. In addition to performances, we also offer guided tours, workshops for adult learners, lakeside hotel rooms, delicious soft-serve ice cream, and so much more.

This summer, more than 3,000 young artists ages 8-18 have convened under the stately pines for the 96th season of Interlochen Arts Camp, while hundreds of others are experiencing our immersive arts education from their own homes through Interlochen Online. These students—who hail from over 50 U.S. states and territories and 40 countries—are currently engaged in a transformative artistic experience unlike any other. Together, they will refine their skills, forge lifelong friendships, and present hundreds of concerts and events—many of which are free to attend.

I hope that you will join us for one of these presentations and witness the unparalleled artistry of these remarkable young creatives. You can also enjoy many of our student performances from wherever you are by logging on to one of our webcasts or tuning in to a live World Youth Symphony Orchestra broadcast on Interlochen Public Radio.

Many of our Arts Camp students are able to be here this summer because of financial aid. Proceeds from Interlochen Arts Festival events, Scholarshop sales, Melody Freeze concessions, and gifts to the Interlochen Annual Fund enable deserving young artists to nurture their talents at Interlochen.

Thank you for investing in the artists of tomorrow. I hope you enjoy the performance.

Trey Devey

President, Interlochen Center for the Arts

#### INTERLOCHEN CENTER FOR THE ARTS

The Interlochen Arts Festival is a component of the nonprofit Interlochen Center for the Arts, one of the world's most vibrant and inspiring cultural communities. An international destination for unparalleled education and creative opportunities, Interlochen Center for the Arts brings together:

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**IPR News:** 91.5 FM, Traverse City; 90.1 FM, Harbor Springs/Petoskey; 89.7 FM, Manistee/Ludington

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Interlochen, Michigan 192nd, 220th, 252nd, 257th Program of the 96th Season

#### HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL THEATRE PRODUCTION

# **RAGTIME**

Book by

Music by TERRENCE MCNALLY STEPHEN FLAHERTY

Lyrics by LYNN AHRENS

Based on the novel "RAGTIME" By E. L. Doctorow

Co-Directed by Justin Lee Miller & Joyce Chittick Musical Direction by Daniel P. Ryan Choreography by Joyce Chittick Scenic Design by Elinore Dake Costume Design by Caitlin Eldred Assistant Costume Designer: Amanda Lifvendahl Sound Design by Robert Cracknell Lighting Design by Matthew P. Benjamin Stage Manager: Kelly DeLisle

Thursday, August 3, 2023 Friday, August 4, 2023 Saturday, August 5, 2023 Sunday, August 6, 2023

7:00pm, Corson Auditorium 7:00pm, Corson Auditorium 7:00pm, Corson Auditorium 2:00pm, Corson Auditorium

RAGTIME is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com

# CAST

Mother	Twila Fraser-Hewlett, Riverside, Calif.
Sarah	Jasmine Iacullo, Coral Springs, Fla.
Coalhouse Walker	Myles Sturns-Thomas, Dallas, Texas
Father	Quin Welch, Northville, Mich.
Younger Brother	Ben Miller, Libertyville, Ill.
Tateh	Connor Egloff, Dayton, Ohio
Grandfather	Adam Sztykiel*
Little Boy	Lennon Peluso*
Little Girl	Sabrina Sztykiel*
Sarah's Friend, Ensemble	Aeja Barrows, Gambrills, Md.
Booker T. Washington, Ensemble	Detola Badmus, Elmont, N.Y.
Harry Houdini, Ensemble	Nico Bennett, San Francisco, Calif.
Henry Ford, Ensemble	Noah Crase, Louisville, Ky.
Evelyn Nesbit, Ensemble	Alexandra Dreszer, Miami, Fla.
Emma Goldman, Ensemble	Grace Cooperstein, Saint Louis, Mo.
J.P. Morgan, Ensemble	Merrick Pearsall, Holiday, Fla.
Willie Conklin, Ensemble	Sam Pickle, Three Rivers, Mich.
Ensemble	Harrison Duncan, Westland, Mich.
	Henry Everett, South Pasadena, Calif.
T	Viveka Frisk, Pittsford, N.Y.
	Tony Fritzgerald, Richmond Heights, Ohio
	Cam Grayson, Sterling Heights, Mich.
	Zach Green, Wayland, Mass.
	Aidan Halat, Omaha, Neb.
	Isis Hassan, Toronto, Canada
	Autumn Hearn, Warren, Mich.
	Marissa Huggett, Nolensville, Tenn.
	Zhaniya Hurd, Macomb, Mich.
	Eli Ilkay, Forest Hills, N.Y.
	Luca Isom, Edwards, Colo.
	Jay Pickett, Warren, Mich.

Jack Porter, Northfield, Ill.
Hazel Rinehart, Boulder, Colo.
Sophia Smith, Chicago, Ill.
Laurel Strong, Chevy Chase, Md.
Amari Thompson, Roseville, Calif.
Demi Veasley, Warren, Mich.
Miles Ward, Jackson Heights, N.Y.
Cassidy Woodward, Toronto, Canada

#### **UNDERSTUDIES**

Father	Zach Green
Coalhouse	Detola Badmus
Mother	Cassidy Woodward
Sarah	Aeja Barrows
Tateh	Sam Pickle

\*Denotes local supporting cast

\* \* \*

#### **SETTING:**

In and around New York City, 1906

PLEASE, NO VISITORS BACKSTAGE OR IN THE DRESSING ROOMS AT ANY TIME.

## **MUSICAL NUMBERS**

## **ACT 1**

"Ragtime" (Opening) Full Company
"Goodbye, My Love"Mother
"Journey On"
"Crime of the Century" Evelyn, Ensemble
"What Kind of a Woman"Mother
"A Shtetl Iz Amereke"
"Success" Tateh, J.P. Morgan, Harry Houdini, Ensemble
"His Name Was Coalhouse Walker" Coalhouse Walker Jr., Harlem Ensemble
"The Gettin' Ready Rag" Coalhouse Walker Jr., Harlem Ensemble
"Henry Ford" Henry Ford, Ensemble
"Nothing Like the City" Little Boy, Mother, Little Girl, Tateh
"Your Daddy's Son" Sarah
"New Music" Mother, Father, Coalhouse Walker Jr., Younger Brother, Ensemble
"Wheels of a Dream" Coalhouse Walker Jr., Sarah
"The Night that Goldman Spoke at Union Square" Emma Goldman,
Younger Brother, Ensemble
"Gliding"
"Justice"Coalhouse Walker Jr., Sarah, Ensemble
"President"
"Til' We Reach That Day" Full Company

### -15 MINUTE INTERMISSION-

#### **ACT 2**

"Coalhouse Soliloquy"	Coalhouse Walker Jr.
"Coalhouse Demands"	Full Company
"What a Game!"	Father, Ensemble
"Atlantic City"	Evelyn, Houdini, Ensemble
"Buffalo Nickel Photoplay Inc."	Tateh
"Our Children"	Mother, Tateh
"Sarah Brown Eyes"	Coalhouse Walker Jr., Sarah
"He Wanted to Say"	Emma Goldman, Younger Brother
"Back to Before"	Mother
"Look What You've Done"	Booker T. Washington, Harlem Ensemble
"Make Them Hear You"	Coalhouse Walker Jr.
"Epilogue"	Full Company

#### **PIT ORCHESTRA**

Daniel P. Ryan, conductor

#### **REED**

Claudia Aizaga JJ Silvey Abigail Friedman Jonathon Nickell

#### HORN

Derrick Rassinier Nathan Sielbeck

#### **TRUMPET**

Lydia Hanje Connor Boyle Brie Nunley\*\*

#### **TROMBONE**

Charles Grace Jackson Hawtax

#### **TUBA**

Claudia Shassberger Conor Dailey\*\*

#### **VIOLIN**

Nathan Thomeer Vivian McDermott

#### **VIOLA**

Meghan Holman

#### **CELLO**

Franklin Sandoval

#### **BASS**

Riley Foos

#### **KEYBOARD**

Mary Grace Ellerbee Jacob Rose

#### **HARP**

Karlee Lanum

#### **PERCUSSION**

Tyler Clark Tyler Smith

\*\*Denotes substitute

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#### **CO-DIRECTORS' NOTES**

Ragtime is one of the most important musical theatre pieces of the last 30 years. It made us rethink musical theatre at the end of the 20th century. Like Les Misérables, Sweeney Todd, and A Chorus Line did in the decades before it. It also pushed the boundaries of what we thought serious modern musical theatre could be. Its plot construction offered a new perspective on how a linear story could tell a deep and meaningful tale; all while rooting the story in the history of America and ultimately, in showing us how we can learn from that history to make this country a better place for everyone.

Perhaps this is the right time in our history to once again tell the story of *Ragtime* and present it to a new generation of audiences. The audiences today may be new, but the story of this show is one that will be forever unique.

—Joyce Chittick, co-director

We owe a debt of gratitude to our ancestors. The majority of those reading this text are descendants of people who arrived in this land by boat from across the sea. They struggled. They suffered. They scratched the soil to eke out a living. Our presence in Corson Auditorium today is a testament to their resilience. The baby that narrowly escaped death, the 13-year-old girl who endured harsh working conditions in a textile mill, the teenage boy wounded on the battlefield who later became a father – they are our ancestors. They live in every cell of our bodies. The American story is written in our DNA.

The musical *Ragtime* seeks to capture life in America at a unique historical juncture. It mixes the lives of notable figures like J.P. Morgan, Henry Ford, Booker T. Washington, and Harry Houdini with ordinary mothers and fathers and daughters and sons, and explores the new music, ragtime, alongside the other musical styles of the day. One can hear echoes of vaudeville, the blues, klezmer, and the music of Scott Joplin, John Phillip Sousa, and Victor Herbert in the score.

The ragtime era witnessed the industrialization of manufacturing and agriculture, the expansion of literacy, the advent of women's suffrage, mass immigration, unprecedented wealth creation juxtaposed with extreme poverty, and innovations such as electric lights, bicycles, and telephones. Sometimes we forget that the rise of automobile ubiquity and the birth of ragtime share a common reason. Industrialization meant cheap cars and cheap pianos.

Based on the 1975 novel by E.L. Doctorow, the musical has lyrics by Lynn Ahrens, music by Stephen Flaherty, and a book by Terrence McNally. McNally was best known for his plays *Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune*, *Love! Valour!* 

Compassion!, Master Class, the musicals Kiss of the Spider Woman, Ragtime, The Full Monty, Catch Me if You Can, and Anastasia, and the opera Dead Man Walking.

My last conversation with Terrence occurred at an afterparty for a *Ragtime* concert with the New York Philharmonic held at Sardi's. He was, and remains, a personal hero of mine. Tragically, Terrence left us on March 24, 2020, due to COVID-19 complications. This production is dedicated to his enduring memory.

—Justin Lee Miller, co-director

\* \* \*

#### PRODUCTION CREDITS

Assistant Stage Managers
Benny Dietz, Minn.
Associate Choreographer Rick Faugno
Dance Captain Marissa Huggett, Tenn.
Fight ChoreographerJeffery Nauman
Fight CaptainKelly DeLisle
Dialect Coach Tyne Turner
Intimacy ConsultantKrista Williams
Vocal Instructors Angela Owens, Sloane Artis
Rehearsal Pianists Mary Grace Ellerbee, Jacob Rose
Director, Musical Theatre Justin Lee Miller
Interim Director, Theatre Arts Stephen John
Director, Theatre Arts William Church
Director of Design and Production Stephen John
Executive Director, Interlochen Presents Brent Wrobel
Assistant Director, Interlochen Presents-ProductionJennifer Apple
Assistant Director, Interlochen Presents-Design & ProductionJeffery Block
Assistant Technical DirectorSammy Kriesch
Scenic Artist Kema Laramie
Painter Stephanie Baugher
Master CarpenterChristian Ward
Carpenters Cortni Baughman, Atlas Zager
Props Master Joel Reedy
Assistant Props Master Eva Berger
Master ElectricianLucas Inman
Electricians Hailey Garza, Jacob Armstrong, Rachel Nickols,
Dakota Fontes, Nelson Gutsch, Jacob Hollens
Deck Electrician Anton Popowitz, Calif.
Light Board OperatorJacob Hollens
Sound Board OperatorSabrina Gilbertson

A2 Nelson Gutsch
A3 Griffen Argyres-Gordon, N.Y.
Follow SpotsAlyssa Hodor, Md.;
Vee Reynhout, Mich.
Q Lab Operator Kit Ruiz, Ill.
Dressers Autumn Kimball, Texas;
Winter Livingston, Mich.;
Lucia Rotolante Freedman, Fla.;
Seoyoung Shin, South Korea
Costume Shop Supervisor Amanda Lifvendahl
Costume Shop TechniciansEleanor Dobry, Caitlin Eldred, Cory John
StitchersJustin Cockrell, Heather Kaatz, Joiya Fishburn,
Jade Jaarda, Alexandria Szczotka, Sarah Koontz
WardrobeJustin Cockrell, Heather Kaatz
Hair & Wig Consultant & TechnicianTiffany Blandin
Costume Shop Volunteers Tracey Hankins, Carol Johnson, Chris Lewis,
Linda Patrick, Bradley Roswell, Cathy Stephenson,
Ann Stull, Melanie Taylor

Special Thanks: Camille Colatosti and Esther Triggs for their wise advice and unwavering support. —JLM

Special Thanks: Welch Family

Any video and/or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

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You can ensure the next promising young artist has the opportunity to come to Interlochen by supporting student scholarships. Make your gift to the Interlochen Annual Fund by visiting www.interlochen.org/giveonline.

Many of our venues are equipped with induction loop systems for the hearing impaired. Please ask one of our ushers if you need assistance connecting to the system. Support for recent upgrades to these systems provided by Michigan Arts and Culture Council; the NEA; Rotary Charities of Traverse City; the Les and Anne Biederman Foundation, Inc.; the Oleson Foundation; and Robert W. Anderson.

In consideration of the performing artists and other patrons, the use of flash photography is not permitted. Federal copyright and licensing rules prohibit the use of video cameras and other recording equipment.

In order to provide a safe and healthy environment, Interlochen maintains a smokefree and alcohol-free campus. Michigan law prohibits any weapons, including concealed weapons, on Interlochen property because we are an educational campus. Thank you for your cooperation.

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